SWEETENING THE MARAS OF LIFE.

TEXT:- Ex.15:22-27.

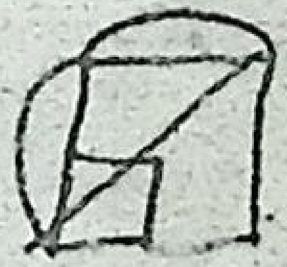
INTRO:-

1. From Babylonia and Euphrates Valley the wandering tribes of Semites across the desert.
   Amorites, Moabites, Edomites, and Hebrews.
2. From the Arabian Desert to Egypt.
   - a/ their dersrt conception of Jahweh.
   - b/ The training of Moses on the Plains of Median.
3. Out of Egypt across the Red Sea, led by Moses. Song of Triumph
   protected and cared for all the way.
4. From the Red Sea to Marah---33miles.
   - a/ their first test of hardship.
   - b/ their murmurings against Moses. victory Song forgotten.
5. How Moses sweetened the waters of Marah.
   - a/ called upon God.
   - b/ used the means at hand.
   - c/ gave God the credit.

BODY:-

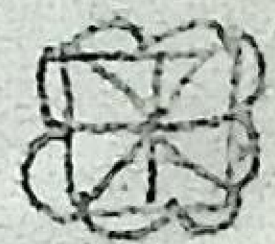
I. The Marahs of Life.

1. All expectancy in the beginning.
2. Expectant hope easily turned to despair.
3. The danger of ourselves becoming embitteredand hardened.

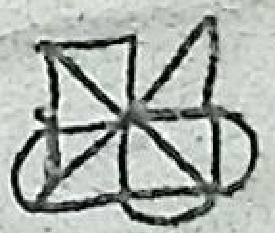


II. How We Can Sweeten Them.

1. By calling upon God to help us. Prayer and Trust.



2. By utilizing the God-given means at our disposal.



I a/ The Marah of Affliction. Men like pigs.

II III b/ The Marah of Burden-bearing.
   1. Little boy helping father unpack goods.
      Passer-by; "Dont you think you have enough load?"
      Boy: "Father knows best how much I ought to carry'
   2. "Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy lade

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IV ~~II.2.~~d/ The Marah of Helplessness.

1. The young man sentenced by courtmartial to be shot.
    - a/ the helplessness of the parents.
    - b/ the little sister goes from Vermont to Washington.
    - c/ Abraham Lincoln's pardon. The power of love.
2. Fire! Child at top window. The plight of the rescuer.
    Cheer him! Saved! The power of Cheer.

V — d/ The Marah of Discouragement.

The minister who found a member of his congregation in a state of mental and spiritual depression.

"And how are you getting along on your way to heaven?"

"Ah, but very slowly I fear."

"Why, bless you, man, there were snails in the Ark, you know."

VI — e/ The Marah of Non-appreciation.

1. The mother who had an idiot child.
    - a/ she gave up all for its care and attention.
    - b/ after 14 years she once said, "And now for 14 yrs I have tended it and loved it, and it does not even know me.
2. The bitterness of God over us, but He keeps on loving us and caring for us.

CONCLUSION:-

I. The tree which sweetens all the bitterness of life is the tree upon which Jesus Christ lived and died.

His living and suffering and dying for sweeten the world-wide Marah of Humanity in the bitterness of ignorance and sin.

II. The near-by springs of Elim.

Near the Cross is the Empty Tomb.

The Living Christ, ever present with us.

Utilizing the Christ Spirit of Life, of Love, of helpful sympathy, and of goodness and power, let us turn all our Marah into fountains of sweet waters and give thanks unto God from whence cometh every blessing of life.

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Hall	5 x 7 9
Dining	12 6 x 17
Parlor	11 x 11
2 Bed	10 6 x 11

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